

SECRET-EYES ONLY

15 March 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Morning Meeting of 15 March 1968

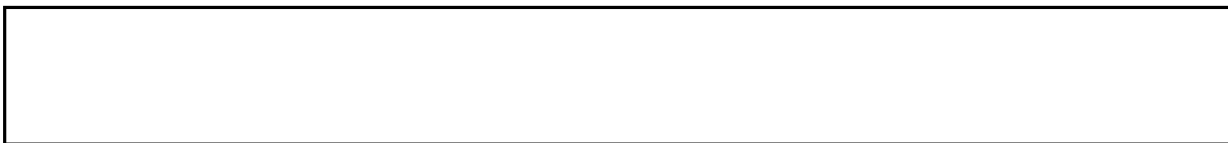
DD/I reported that the primer on the gold problem will be ready during the day, and DDCI noted that the front-page article in today's Wall Street Journal provides a useful analysis of the gold crisis.

DD/I advised that the President has asked State to produce by 1 May recommendations for improving the U. S. position in the Middle East. A working group put together in this connection will dust off the Junius Holmes report on the Middle East as the basic working document.



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Godfrey reported that thus far NMCC is playing down the significance and extent of "Operation Certain Victory" which, according to press reports, involves a sweep of fifty allied battalions from Saigon to the Cambodian border.



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D/ONE informed that the Army's contribution to the Laos Estimate is in hand and that a meeting of representatives is scheduled for Monday. The Director asked that the situation with respect to the Laos Estimate be reviewed again next Tuesday morning.

Carver reported that Messrs. Bundy, Warnke, and Grant have been asked to brief the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on the pacification program and that State has asked for CIA assistance. Carver advised that [redacted] will assist in composing the brief but will not attend the hearing. (See Action 1)

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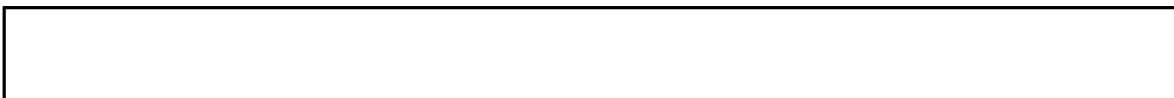
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Carver noted that one of Ky's key aides denies that Ky has been pushing the creation of a "March North Army" and that it is the inspiration of the aide himself.

DD/I and Carver advised that the pacification paper is in the works, and the Director urged that it be completed forthwith.

Warner advised that the questioning in the House Appropriations Committee concerning the Jack Anderson article emanated mainly from Congressman John Rhodes rather than from Congressman Lipscomb.



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Executive Director advised that the Allen Dulles plaque ceremony is definitely scheduled for next Thursday at 11:45 a.m., and the Director concurred in the plan to host a luncheon for Allen Dulles after the ceremony.

Executive Director indicated that participants in the NSA Mid-career Program will be visiting Headquarters on Monday.

Executive Director, in commenting on his address yesterday to the National Interdepartmental Seminar, noted that twelve of the thirty-three participants were from CIA and that this factor plus other indicators may suggest the need for a review of the utility of the NIS. (See Action 2)

Executive Director reported that, in view of the campaign to solicit Federal employees' signatures on anti-Vietnam war petitions, a memorandum has been distributed to the Deputies and Heads of Independent Offices concerning employee conduct.

Executive Director reported that John Clarke will be briefing Bob Michaels of the House Appropriations Committee staff Monday on the Fiscal Year 1969 budget.

DDCI indicated that Admiral Lowrance wishes to bring a guest to Thursday's USIB meeting, and the Director concurred.



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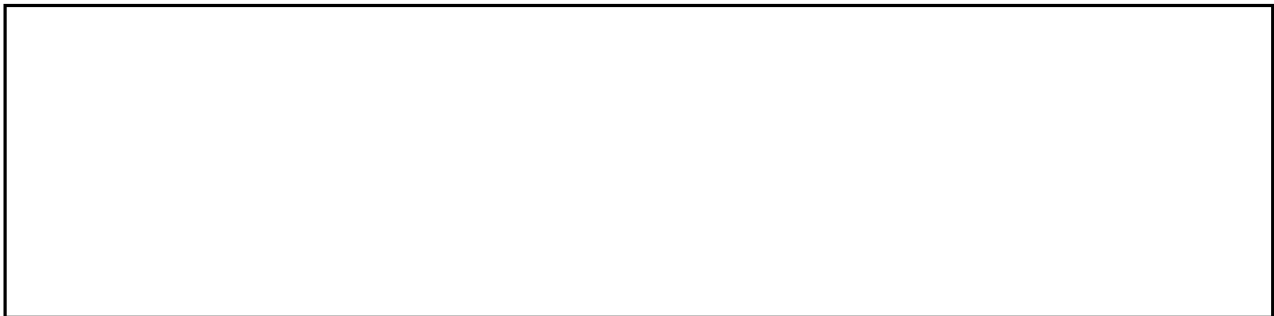
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The Director drew attention to a letter from Congressman Halpern attaching the negative views of an important constituent concerning the effectiveness of the intelligence community and asked Warner to discuss the matter with Congressman Halpern.



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The Director commended the practice of utilizing Headquarters facilities for arranging dinners for visiting foreign intelligence dignitaries and specifically cited the dinners recently hosted by Jim Critchfield for intelligence chiefs attending the CENTO conference.

ACTIONS:

1. The Director asked Warner to explore and ensure that CIA will not at the last minute be asked to participate in the briefing of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on the pacification program.

2. The Director asked for a re-evaluation of the NIS to determine its value to CIA and indicated that, depending on the outcome, he is prepared to ask Under Secretary Katzenbach to review the matter. (DD/S in coordination with the other Deputies.)



L. K. White

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